

1 CRYPTOGRAPHIC MODULE FOR SECURE PROCESSING
OF VALUE-BEARING ITEMS

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 An on-line value bearing item (VBI) printing system that
includes one or more cryptographic modules and a central database
is disclosed. The cryptographic modules are capable of
implementing the USPS Information Based Indicia Program Postal
Security Device Performance Criteria and other required VBI
10 standards. The modules encipher the information stored in the
central database for all of the on-line VBI system customers and
are capable of preventing access to the database by unauthorized
users. Additionally, the cryptographic module is capable of
preventing unauthorized and undetected modification, including
15 the unauthorized modification, substitution, insertion, and
deletion of VBI related data and cryptographically critical
security parameters.

MAS PAS279819.1--10/13/00 6:55 PM

20

25

30

35